



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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News Release

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Date: October 12, 2001

Child Support Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM) Process to be Centralized in Michigan

A child support data match program will be centralized in the FIA to help speed up child support collections in Michigan; this could result in \$10s of millions in additional collections said state officials. Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Maura D. Corrigan and Family Independence Agency (FIA) director Douglas E. Howard announced the change in Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM) in Michigan. The initiative will match data in financial institutions to child support arrearages.

The purpose of FIDM is to identify financial accounts belonging to non-custodial parents who are delinquent in their child support payments. Once they are identified, such accounts may be subject to liens and levies issued by state or local child support enforcement agencies.

“This is mandated by the 1996 federal welfare reform law,” said Chief Justice Corrigan. “It provides a great opportunity for Michigan’s judicial and executive branches to work together to improve and expand child support services while relieving Friend of the Court offices of administrative duties so they can focus on other activities.”

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JOHN ENGLER, Governor

Financial institutions subject to the quarterly data match requirement include: banks, federal or state credit unions, benefit associations, insurance companies, safe deposit companies, money market mutual funds and similar institutions licensed to do business in the state.

Accounts subject to the data match agreement include: demand deposit accounts, checking or negotiable order of withdrawal accounts, savings accounts, time deposit accounts and money market mutual fund accounts.

“This initiative will provide a single point of contact for financial institutions,” Howard said. “Centralizing the process will allow for greater efficiency and effectiveness and access to information in other states. Ultimately, it will result in increased collections.”

The FIA is working with about 700 in-state banks, credit unions and savings and loan institutions to implement FIDM. The agency’s goal is to have the centralized process operating by December 2001.

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